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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/688,313	POHL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jinhee J. Lee	2831	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/15/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 10-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12/29/03 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0505</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>0104</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Keith Baxter on 5/2/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

1. Cancel claims 9,
2. Amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1 (Amended). An in-plane component adapter used with a terminal block of a type mountable at a rear surface on a laterally extending rail to present a substantially constant lateral thickness between left and right planar walls that may abut corresponding planar walls of adjacent terminal blocks mounted on the rail, the terminal block providing a plurality of terminals accessible at upper and lower edges of the terminal block for receiving electrical conductors communicating electrical signals to a socket of the terminal block, the socket for receiving a relay having relay pins insertable into the socket from a front surface of the terminal block, the component adapter comprising:

an insulating housing having a width substantially equal to the lateral thickness of the terminal block;

at least one component within the insulating housing having terminals;

at least one conductive pin having a first end extending from a rear surface of the housing and receivable by the terminal block, having a portion within the housing to selectively attach to the terminals of the at least one component, and having a second end receiving a conductor from the relay at a front surface of the housing;
and

wherein the housing may be attached to the terminal block so that the housing lies substantially between planes of the left and right planar walls of the terminal block and

wherein the housing includes upper and lower forward extending stabilizing means having inner surfaces aligned with and parallel to upper surface and lower surface of the relay so as to receive upper edge and lower edge of the relay therebetween when the conductor from the relay is received by the second end.

3. In claim 3, line 2, change "contained" to --at least one--.
4. In claim 4, line 1, change "the component" to --the at least one component--.
5. In claim 6, line 1, change "the component" to --the at least one component--.
6. In claim 7, line 1, change "the component" to --the at least one component--.
7. Amend claim 8 as follows:
 8. (Amended) An in-plane component adapter used with a terminal block of a type mountable at a rear surface on a laterally extending rail to present a substantially constant lateral thickness between left and right planar walls that may abut corresponding planar walls of adjacent terminal blocks mounted on the rail, the

terminal block further providing a plurality of terminals accessible at upper and lower edges of the terminal block for receiving electrical conductors communicating electrical signals to a relay of the terminal block, and providing a terminal block socket for receiving a ~~a~~ the relay having relay pins insertable into the terminal block socket from a front surface, the component adapter comprising:

an insulating housing;

a component within the insulating housing having terminals;

conductive pins collectively having: first ends extending from a rear surface of the housing and receivable by the socket, portions within the housing attached to terminals of the component, and second ends terminating in housing receptacles receiving the relay pins of a ~~a~~ the relay at a front surface of the housing; and

wherein when the conductive pins are received by the terminal block socket, the housing lies substantially between planes of the left and right planar walls of the terminal block; and

wherein the housing includes upper and lower forward extending stabilizing means having inner surfaces aligned with and parallel to upper surface and lower surface of the relay so as to receive upper edge and lower edge of the relay therebetween when the relay pins are inserted into the housing receptacles.

8. In claim 10, line 1, change "arms" to --means--.
9. In claim 11, line 1, change "fuse adapter" to --component adapter--.
10. In claim 14, line 1, change "fuse adapter" to --component adapter--.
11. In claim 17, line 1, change "fuse adapter" to --component adapter--.

12. Amend claim 18 as below:

Claim 18 (Amended). A terminal block relay assembly comprising:

a terminal block housing having a rear surface including a channel allowing the housing to be mounted on a laterally extending rail to present a substantially constant lateral thickness between left and right planar walls that may abut corresponding planar walls of adjacent terminal blocks mounted on the rail;

a plurality of terminals accessible at upper and lower edges of the terminal block housing for receiving electrical conductors communicating electrical signals to a relay held by the terminal block housing;

an in-plane fuse adapter including:

(a) an insulating adapter housing having a width substantially equal to the lateral thickness of the terminal block housing;

(b) at least one component within the adapter housing having terminals;

(c) at least one conductive pin having a first end extending from a rear surface of the adapter housing and receivable by the terminal block housing, having a portion within the adapter housing to selectively attach to terminals of the component and having a second end receiving a conductor from the relay at a front surface of the adapter housing; and

wherein the adapter housing may be attached to the terminal block housing so that the adapter housing lies substantially between planes of the left and right planar walls of the terminal block housing; and

wherein the housing includes upper and lower forward extending stabilizing means having inner surfaces aligned with and parallel to upper surface and lower surface of the relay so as to receive upper edge and lower edge of the relay therebetween when the conductor from the relay is received by the second end.

13. In claim 20, line 2, change "contained" to –at least one--.
14. In claim 21, line 1, change "the component" to –the at least one component--.
15. In claim 23, line 1, change "the component" to –the at least one component--.
16. In claim 24, line 1, change "the component" to –the at least one component--.
17. Amend claim 25 as below:

Claim 25 (Amended). A terminal block relay assembly comprising:

a terminal block housing having a rear surface including a channel allowing the housing to be mounted on a laterally extending rail to present a substantially constant lateral thickness between left and right planar walls that may abut corresponding planar walls of adjacent terminal blocks mounted on the rail;

a plurality of terminals accessible at upper and lower edges of the terminal block housing for receiving electrical conductors communicating electrical signals to a relay held by the terminal block housing;

a terminal block socket for receiving a relay having relay pins insertable into the terminal block socket from a front surface of the terminal block housing;

an in-plane fuse adapter including:

(a) an insulating adapter housing;

(b) a component within the adapter housing having terminals;

(c) conductive pins collectively having: first ends extending from a rear surface of the adapter housing and receivable by the terminal block socket, portions within the adapter housing attached to terminals of the component, and housing receptacles receiving the relay pins of a relay at a front surface of the housing; and

wherein when the conductive pins are received by the terminal block socket, the housing lies substantially between planes of the left and right planar walls of the terminal block housing; and

wherein the housing includes upper and lower forward extending stabilizing means having inner surfaces aligned with and parallel to upper surface and lower surface of the relay so as to receive upper edge and lower edge of the relay therebetween when the relay pins are inserted into the housing receptacles.

18. In claim 26, line 1-2, change "adapter housing includes" to --stabilizing means are--.
19. In claim 27, line 1, change "claim 25" to --claim 26--.
20. Renumber claims 32-35 to claims 31-34.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-8 and 10-34 are allowed:
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Re claims 1-8 and 10-34, prior arts do not teach or suggest the combination of terminal block with component with terminal and conductive pins with housing including upper and lower forward extending stabilizing means having inner surfaces aligned with

and parallel to upper surface and lower surface of the relay so as to receive upper edge and lower edge of the relay therebetween.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Election/Restrictions

4. Claims 1, 8, 18 and 25 are generic and allowable. Accordingly, the restriction requirement as to the encompassed species is hereby withdrawn and all claims, directed to the non-elected species are no longer withdrawn from consideration since all of the claims depend from or otherwise include each of the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the linked species, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable generic linking claim(s) be presented in a continuation or divisional application, such claims may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinhee J. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-1977. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, Th and F at 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A. Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2831

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jji



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PRIMARY EXAMINER